

BROWNE URGES HIGHER TAX ON LAND VALUES IN WASHINGTON

Tells Congressional Committee
Present Assessments Keep
Three-Fourths of District
Naked of Improvement.

Pays Better to Hold Land Idle
Than to Improve It, He
Asserts—Points to Gift to
Markets in Capital.

Advocating a higher tax on land
values in the District of Columbia,
and insisting that much of its area
is held by speculators, Herbert J.
Browne continued his argument to-
day before the Congressional com-
mittee investigating the half-and-
half question.

"It pays better to hold land idle
in the District of Columbia than to
improve it," was one of Mr.
Browne's assertions. "That is the
reason why three-fourths of the
area of the District today is as
naked as when Columbus discovered
America."

Mr. Browne read exhaustive ex-
tracts from his brief filed with the
committee several days ago, and
reiterated his charges against Tax
Assessor Richards, whom he ac-
cuses of underestimating a great
deal of District property.

NAMES BUILDINGS.

He invited the particular attention of
the committee to those portions of the
brief relating to the assessment of what
was formerly the Equitable building
property on F street, recently acquired
by a department store, and the assess-
ment of the southwest corner of Ninth
and Louisiana avenue, now leased as
a market space.

In connection with the latter prop-
erty Mr. Browne claimed that under a
police regulation a market house occupying
the property uses sidewalk space that
is worth \$10,000 a year, but for which
the District government receives nothing.

The owner of the property, he al-
leges, virtually collects the rent for this
sidewalk space, which should go to the
government. Mr. Browne said he had
no doubt that the owner of the prop-
erty, the Maryland and Annapolis
sidewalk property in his charge for the
rent.

The property, he continued, netted
(Continued on Page Fourteen.)

WEIGHT LIMIT ON BRIDGE PROTESTED

Representatives of Interests in
Virginia Want Modification
Aqueduct Span.

Protest against the weight limitation
of trucks on the Aqueduct Bridge was
made to the Commissioners by repre-
sentatives of interests on the Virginia
side of the river today at a hearing in
the District building.

The protestants argued for the mod-
ification of the police regulation which
restricts the weight of trucks and loads
to six tons, to a limitation of twelve
tons. The petitioners based their ap-
peal on the grounds that unless the
modification was made their business
will be greatly injured.

Engineer Commissioner Kutz admitted
this afternoon the problem presented
by the appeal was indeed a knotty
question. The Commissioners fear that
to increase the limit of tonnage with-
out strengthening the bridge, for which
no funds are available, would endanger
lives.

The protestants were represented by
Attorney Crandall Mackey. Among the
concerns represented were: Allegheny
Coke Company, the Standard Oil Com-
pany, Columbia Oil Company, Penn
Oil Company, Texas Oil Company,
Merchants Transfer, Anderson Auto
Company, Columbia Granite and Breeding
Companies.

Fate of U. S. Engineers In Serbia Is Unknown

Red Cross headquarters here today
still were without information whether
or not American sanitary engineers had
fallen into the hands of the Bulgarian
government with the capture of Uskub.
Serbia. Under the treaty of Geneva
Red Cross workers are neutral, and
continue their work no matter under
what government.

Philippines Demand More Pacific Ships

Delegate Quezon Says Loss of
Trade Will Be \$50,000,000.
Also Wants Freedom.

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 28.—"The
Philippines have been hurt materially
by the withdrawal of the Pacific Mail
from the Oriental trade," said Manuel
Quezon, Philippine Delegate to Con-
gress, when he arrived here on the
Mongolia en route to Washington.
"One of the first things I shall do
when Congress convenes," continued
Quezon, "will be to work for some
measure which will put the American
merchant marine back on the Pacific,
with special reference to the Philip-
pines."

"Our imports from the United States
are \$60,000,000 annually, and now we
have no means for receiving these
goods. As far as exports go, we are not
so badly off, because many of our prod-
ucts go to other countries than the
United States."

Quezon said that he would also work
for a bill which will give a definite time
as to when independence is to be grant-
ed to the islands. It was reported by
Americans returning from the Philip-
pines the sentiment for such a change
has been weakening ever since the Eu-
ropean war broke out.

MRS. GALT PLANNING FOR A SHORT TRIP

Will Leave Washington Tomor-
row or Saturday. But Her
Destination Is Unknown.

Miss Margaret Wilson, the President's
daughter, went to New York today for
a short visit. She will return to the
White House within a few days, and
has as yet made no definite plans as
to the date of her departure for Mad-
ison, Wis., where she plans to resume
her social service work.

Friends of Mrs. Galt declare she is
planning to leave town this week for a
short visit, but she has informed no one
of her destination. She has the prepara-
tions for her departure well in hand,
and will have all the details completed
within a short time, so she may devote
the time before the wedding to rest and
recreation.

Several costumes which Mrs. Galt
ordered from a Connecticut Avenue im-
porter, and which were made up in the
Atlantic City establishment of the same
name, reached Washington yesterday
and are ready for inspection of the First
Lady to be. Mrs. Galt had made ap-
pointments to try them on within a
few days. She has already begun to
wear some of the new costumes, and
appeared yesterday in a handsome
blue tailored suit, trimmed with seal.

Flowers For Wedding.

In the White House greenhouse
quantities of orchids and lilies of the
valley, being coaxed by careful
nursing and scientific forcing to bloom
at the date selected for the President's
marriage, to be used in decorating Mrs.
Galt's pretty little home, where, author-
ities agree, the ceremony is to take
place.

Mrs. Galt dined at the White House
last evening, and later accompanied the
President and Miss Jones to the Na-
tional Theater, where they occupied one
of the lower boxes. Mrs. Galt wore a
pink gown, with a bodice composed al-
most entirely of lace. She wore the
cluster of mauve orchids that has be-
come a noticeable part of her costume.

Has Naval Ancestry.

Miss Edith Wallace Benham, who has
been appointed at Mrs. Galt's request
to the position of White House social
secretary, has a notable naval ancestry.
The daughter of the late Rear Admiral
A. E. K. Benham, she is also the grand-
daughter of Commodore Timothy G.
Benham, a distinguished officer of the
"old navy," and a sister of the late
Lieut. H. K. Benham, U. S. N. She is
a friend of Mrs. Daniels, wife of the
Secretary of the Navy, and has been
closely associated with her in her work
as secretary of the Society of Sponsors
for the American Navy. Mrs. Daniels is
understood to have put in a good work
for her friend when her name was men-
tioned for the post. Miss Benham has
christened two ships, the cruiser San
Francisco, when she was a girl, and the
destroyer Benham, which was named
for her last year. She also collected the
material for the society of Sponsors'
book, "The Ships of the American Navy
and Their Sponsors."

Lady Padget Plans To Stick to Post

Capture of Hospital by Bulgars
Makes No Difference, She
Wires Husband.

LONDON, Oct. 28.—The hospital in
Serbia of Lady Ralph Paget, wife of
the permanent under secretary for for-
eign affairs, has fallen into the hands
of the Bulgarians through their capture
of Skopje. There are several Americans
on the staff.

A telegram received by Sir Ralph says
that Lady Paget and the staff intend to
remain at their posts, and that it is
not thought their position is perilous.
The hospital probably will be interna-
tionalized. Otherwise the staff prob-
ably will be interned.

Louisa Margaret, daughter of Sir
Arthur and Lady Paget, was married
in 1907 to her cousin, Sir Ralph Paget,
British minister to Serbia, 1904-1911.
Her mother is a daughter of the late Paron
Revens, at one time owner of the Fifth
Avenue Hotel, New York.

During her residence at the British
legation in Belgrade Lady Paget be-
came deeply interested in Balkan life
and the welfare of the Serbian people,
and was one of the principal or-
ganizers of the hospital service in
Serbia during the war of 1912.

When the present war broke out,
though in fragile health, she insisted
on leaving England against doctors' or-
ders to resume the work carried on for
two years among people to whom field
hospitals before her advent were un-
known.

Improved Service to Asheville. "Land
of the Sky" leave Washington, daily,
7 p. m. New No. 31. Autumn tourist
season at its height. Ideal weather for
golf, riding, and all outdoor sports. Get
dinner on the diner. Southern Railway.
—Adv.

RENE VIVIANI AND CABINET TENDER THEIR RESIGNATIONS

Withdrawals of French Minis-
ters Follow Failure of Diplo-
macy to Win Bulgaria to
Cause of Quadruple Entente.

Chamber of Deputies Adjourns
After Stormy Session, When
Ministerial Crisis Is An-
nounced Officially.

PARIS, Oct. 28.—President
Poincare, it is stated officially, has
asked Aristide Briand to form a
new ministry.

The resignations of Premier
René Viviani and the entire French
cabinet were offered today follow-
ing a decision by the premier that
he could not undertake its reor-
ganization.

Aristide Briand and Jules Cam-
bon, both former premiers, were
immediately summoned by Presi-
dent Poincare.

The chamber of deputies ad-
journed a stormy session today, at
the request of M. Viviani, who
asked that discussion of the cabi-
net crisis be put over until tomor-
row. Briand gave his consent.

CAUSE OF SHAKE-UP.

The shake-up is attributed mainly to
general dissatisfaction with the govern-
ment's foreign policy, especially in con-
nection with the German diplomatic vic-
tory, which brought Bulgaria into the
war on the side of the Austro-German
official announcement of a recon-
structed cabinet is expected hourly,
possibly with the personnel:
Briand—Premier and minister of for-
eign affairs.
Jules Cambon—General secretary.
In. Frevelot—Vice president of cabi-
net without portfolio.
Viviani—Minister of justice.
Gallieni—Minister of war.
Admiral Lacaze—Minister of marine.
Jolot—Minister of finance.
Bourgeois—Minister of colonies.
Painleve—Minister of education and
religion (the latter newly created).
Bourgeois, Combes, Denis, Cochon,
and Jules Guéde, ministers without
portfolio.

Poincare In Conference.

President Poincare conferred this
morning with Briand and Cambon, the
latter formerly French ambassador to
Berlin.
Viviani's resignation followed a de-
cision not to attempt reconstruction of
the ministry himself, and another
solution of pending complications was
decided on, including a new cabinet
head.

In France, as well as in England, the
decision by Bulgaria, which had been
wavering between joining the allies and
the Central Powers, was a surprise.
(Continued on Third Page.)

EMBARGO ON GOODS TO U. S. EXPECTED

Germany May Declare One to
Offset Blockade By Allied
Powers.

Unofficial reports are current that
Germany may declare an embargo
against all shipments of goods to the
United States.

It is admitted at the State Depart-
ment that there have been intimations
of such action for some months. It
would cause no great surprise.

Germany, if it takes such action, will
presumably be moved by the fact the
United States does not get shipments of
goods in Germany past the English
blockade.

An embargo by Germany would not
materially affect present conditions be-
cause the blockade already cuts off the
most of them. From the standpoint of
good relations between the two coun-
tries, officials hope that no embargo
be declared.

British Cruiser Ashore On Coast of Scotland

LONDON, Oct. 28.—The British cruiser
Argyll is stranded on the east coast of
Scotland, the admiralty announced to-
day. Bad weather, it was stated, drove
the ship ashore.

It is feared it would be a total wreck.
The officers and crew were saved.

Autumn Outing to Luray Caverns.
Sunday, October 31st. Special train Lv.
Washington 8:10 a. m. Alexandria 8:25
a. m. \$2 round trip. Southern Railway.
—Adv.

Would Teach Scholars To Become Soldiers

Following an hour's confer-
ence with President Wilson
concerning the Administra-
tion's army bill, Chairman
Chamberlain, of the Senate
Committee on Military Af-
fairs, announced he would
introduce a supplementary
bill providing for a form of
co-operation between the Fed-
eral Government and the
States, whereby military in-
struction may be made part
of the curriculum in all pub-
lic schools.

"My idea is that in every pub-
lic school of the country
there should be placed a
primer on military instruc-
tion prepared, perhaps, by
the War Department, and the
instruction made compulsory
so far as reading, writing
and arithmetic are com-
pulsory."

Senator Chamberlain assured
the President that while he
may object to certain details
in Administration army bill,
he will give the general pro-
gram his hearty support.

GERMANS GAIN ON ALL BATTLEFRONTS

Berlin Announces Advances
Against Russians and Ital-
ians.

BERLIN (via Sayville wireless), Oct.
28.—"German advances on all fronts"
was the caption over today's war
office report.

Continued progress in Serbia is an-
nounced. "General von Gallwitz is said
to have captured 2,000 Serbs since
October 23."

In the Dniepr and Niga district
Marshal von Hindenburg is declared
to have repulsed all Russian counter-
attacks.

Further south Prince Leopold has
beaten off a Russian drive near
Tcherassy.

The Italian offensive is reported as
"slowing." King Victor's troops still
attack in the Isonzo, but in smaller
numbers and with less ammunition.
They have been repulsed at Km. 11.
It is admitted that they took sections
of trenches at Goritz, but added that
later they were dislodged. At Revere-
to the are accused of shelling a
hospital.

General von Linsingen's force, near
the southern extremity of the Ger-
man eastern line, has captured Rudka,
Russia, west of Czartorysk.

OFFICIALS BELIEVE PEACE DRAWS NEAR

Circumstances Indicate Ger-
many Is Ready to Discuss
Proposals With Allies.

Hopes of officials for early and effec-
tive discussions of possible terms of
peace in Europe have been raised in the
past few days. Germany is expected,
from several recent circumstances,
of diplomatic maneuvering in foreign capi-
tals, to breach the peace subject.

It is known State Department offi-
cials are expecting reopening of the dis-
cussion of peace. Carefully guarded in-
quiries are expected as the first sign of
willingness by a belligerent to launch
another peace movement.

A circumstance that many diplomats
regard as strongly pointing to renewal
of peace negotiations was the long con-
ference Monday at Potsdam between
the Kaiser and American Ambassador
Gerard. The hope and belief was strong
here that the Kaiser's business with
the American envoy was on the general
subject of peace.

"Almost secrecy will mark initiation of
peace negotiations," officials here have
constantly asserted. Therefore, con-
firmation of any peace discussion be-
tween the Kaiser and Gerard is not im-
mediately expected. Gerard is expected to
report soon to President Wilson
through the State Department, with a
"feeling out" peace process among the
allies afterward like.

In diplomatic quarters it was argued
today that Germany is picking a pecu-
liarly opportune time to launch peace
negotiations. The resignation of Premier
Viviani of France, following that of
Minister Delcasse, the serious cabinet
disruption in England, apparent col-
lapse of the allies' hardline cam-
paign, imminent danger of complete
subjection of Serbia, Russia's rout in
Poland and success of the Teutonic
southern drive all combined to convince
many diplomats here that Germany is
in peculiar position at least to open
peace discussion.

Haitian Bandit Leader Killed By Americans

CAPE HAITIEN, Hayti, Oct. 28.—In
an engagement with American marines
the leader of a Haitian bandit gang
has been killed. It was reported here
today.

CONFESSION IN BOMB PLOT IS EXPECTED BY U. S. ATTORNEY

Knox Intimates Belief That One
Or More of Prisoners Will
Make Full Disclosures.
Higher-Ups Uncaught.

Further Arrests Looked For By
Government, Says Prosecu-
tor Marshall—Gathered Evi-
dence At Waterfront.

NEW YORK, Oct. 28.—Assist-
ant District Attorney Knox hinted
today that one and possibly two of
the five men now under arrest will
confess full details of the alleged
plot to blow up trans-Atlantic mun-
ition ships, involving more im-
portant figures who supplied the
funds for the conspiracy.

"We are convinced," said Knox,
"that there are 'higher ups.' All
our efforts are being centered on
the arrest of these men. We feel
that evidence already in our pos-
session is sufficient to obtain the
indictment of the men already un-
der arrest."

Knox went to Jersey City today
to renew his efforts to bring Paul
Daeché, one of the alleged con-
spirators to New York and under
the jurisdiction of the Federal au-
thorities. Secret Service men want
to question Daeché before the Fed-
eral grand jury meets November
3 to begin the investigation of the
alleged conspiracy.

CALLS SCHOLZ ERRAND BOY.

Abraham Snyder, attorney for
Walter Scholz, who is now in the Tombs
in default of bail, said today there was
no truth in a rumor that his client
would turn government's evidence and
testify against Fay, Snyder, how-
ever, repeated his assertion that Scholz
was only a paid errand boy for Fay,
who, he said, gave him \$25 a week. He
said Scholz knew nothing of the con-
spiracy.

Assistant District Attorney Knox went
to Jersey City to renew his efforts to
bring Daeché to New York and under
the jurisdiction of the Federal authori-
ties. Secret Service men are anxious to
question Daeché, who is resisting ex-
tradition.

Dipped Only Into Froth.

That in the arrest of Fay, Scholz,
Bertrams, Daeché and Knicker the
United States Government has dipped
into only "the froth of the whole mat-
ter," was a statement made today by a
high Government official.

The arrest of the five men is the
crystallization of several months' work
by a "speciality squad" of eighty-five
picked men from the office of the Col-
lector of the Port of New York. It was
said. Under the direction of George
(Continued on Second Page.)

BABY RESCUED FROM SMOKE-FILLED ROOM

Fireman Discovers Mother and
Child in House Near Blaze
At 1325 Seventh Street.

A ten month's old baby girl was re-
scued from a smoke filled room at 1325
Seventh street early today when fire
broke out nearby and smothering palls
covered the mother and child.

The child was Florence Nor-
witz, daughter of Mrs. R. Norwitz,
of Baltimore, who was visiting the family
of Jacob Hinkle.

Private J. B. Dutton of No. 4 Truck
looking through the house in search of
any occupant who failed to escape, dis-
covered the mother and child. The
woman was able to reach an adjoining
house across a balcony. Dutton brought
the infant down a ladder to the street.

The fire was discovered about 3:30
o'clock in the rear of 1325 Seventh
street northwest. It was burning
fiercely in a carload of hay in a
building occupied by J. F. Ritter &
Sons. The cause of the blaze was not
determined. The damage is estimat-
ed at \$1,000.

Water drenched the premises of
1325 Seventh street to the extent of
about \$500.

21 CHILDREN DEAD MANY MISSING IN SCHOOLHOUSE FIRE

Panic Spreads in Peabody, Mass., Class-
rooms When Scholars Find Escape
Cut Off—Facing Destruction In
Flames, Several Leap.

MANY CRUSHED IN RUSH FOR DOOR

Residents Near By Try To Lend Aid—No
Fire Escapes On Structure, Which Is
Described As Mere Shell—List
Of Injured Is Heavy.

PEABODY, Mass., Oct. 21.—Twenty-one little
children are known to have perished and double that num-
ber may have lost their lives when the St. John's Parochial
School was swept by fire here today.

Trapped on the upper floors of the three-story brick
building or caught behind a door which opened inward and
was jammed by the weight of humanity, the little ones
were burned or crushed to death.

Twenty of the trapped children who were finally
rescued from the school building, which was a mass of
flames, were seriously injured.

NO FIRE-ESCAPES ON BUILDING.

The bodies recovered were those of children ranging
in age from eight to twelve years. Nine were so burned as
to make recognition impossible.

St. John's Parochial School was merely a brick shell,
with inflammable interior and no fire-escapes. This made
it similar to an oven when the roaring fire got under way.
The structure was erected six years ago, and was the large-
est in the city. The three-story walls were of brick, but all
interior, including the stairways, was made of wood
burned like tinder.

CHILDREN IN SCHOOL NUMBERED 672.

In the building when the fire broke out were 672
dren. They were just preparing to go to their
classes when one of the sisters smelled smoke. She in-
gated and found the lower hall ablaze. The flame-
spreading rapidly. The fire alarm was sounded.

The children were told to leave the building by
doors. In the class rooms perfect order was
Then the tots stepped into the hall.

Thick, hot smoke poured toward them
crackled nearby. First came cries to the sisters,
and panic. Boys and girls, seeing their teach-
broke ranks. They dashed for windows and
majority rushed wildly for the big front door
they had entered only a short time before.

MANY TRAMPLED ON IN PANIC.

Many of the children were trampled
reaching the door. Screams of mites of
from the flaming building as the children st
lives. Many were unable to reach the doc
the windows prepared to jump immediate
ledges.

Persons living in the neighborhood
scene. They called to the little ones, bes
to make the leap until blankets could be
them. Some, crying and protesting,
jumped. Men rushed forward and cau
spread coats. Hurry calls were sent to
blankets. With these spread as nets, :
were saved.

FIREMEN FIND PITIFUL.

With flames roaring behind them
looming between them and the ear
down through their tears of terror
cries and jumped. Many were in
perilous leaps. With the main d
the children had either to jump o
Firemen found a pitiful si
their way through the main door
of boys and girls were jammed.

Some had died of suffoca